

# OHSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES (October 2, 2008)

The Ohio High School Athletic Association Board of Directors held a regularly scheduled meeting in the Board Room of the OHSAA office building on October 2, 2008. President Mike Richards called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was opened with a prayer led by Jay Wolfe and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Steve Stirn.

**Board Members Present:** Mike Richards, president; Keith Bell, vice president; Teresa Alberts; Gene Klaus; Bill Koppel; Rocco Nero; Steve Stirn; Rock VanFossen; Jay Wolfe, and Jeff Jordan (ex-officio) and Tom Farbizo (ex-officio).

**Administrative Staff Present:** Dan Ross, commissioner; Bob Goldring and Deborah B. Moore, associate commissioners; Steve Neil, Roxanne Price; Jerry Snodgrass, and Henry Zaborniak Jr., assistant commissioners, and Tim Stried, director of information services.

**Others Attending:** Steve Craig, OHSAA legal counsel; Todd Boehm, OHSAA comptroller; Corey Lamb, OHSAA intern; Frank Gamble, Ohio High School Baseball Coaches Association; Don Henderson, Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association; Dick Kerschbaum, Bob Brigati, Wally Hood and Mike Mauk, Ohio High School Football Coaches Association; Casey Milligan, Ohio High School Golf Coaches Association; John Johnson, Ohio Scholastic Soccer Coaches Association; Mike Griggs, Ohio High School Swimming Coaches Association; Carol Russo, Scott Taylor and Kaye Kessler, Ohio High School Volleyball Coaches Association; Troy Roth, Ohio High School Wrestling Coaches Association; Jerry Fick, OHSAA Officials Advisory Committee; Ken Baker, Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators; Bruce Painter; Sidney Williams; Jayhue Williams Jr., Tiwatha Murdock and their son; and Jeffery Ritz.

## I. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Steve Stirn, second by Bill Koppel to **adopt** the agenda as amended for the October 2, 2008, Board of Directors meeting.

Motion passed 9-0.

## II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Rock VanFossen, second by Jay Wolfe to **approve** the minutes from the September 11, 2008, Board of Directors meeting.

Motion passed 9-0.

## III. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### A. Financial Report

Comptroller Todd Boehm provided the financial report for September. The report is summarized as follows:

Balance — August 31, 2008	\$654,203.40
Receipts — September 2008	<u>77,523.64</u>
	\$731,727.04
Disbursements — September 2008	<u>530,475.01</u>
	\$201,252.03
Accounted for as follows:	
Checking Account Balance per 5/3 Bank (9/30/08)	\$288,187.08
	\$288,187.08
Less Outstanding Checks	<u>86,935.05</u>
Balance — September 30, 2008	\$201,252.03
Available Funds — September 30, 2008	
Bank Balance	\$201,252.03
Savings	7,622.69
Certificate of Deposit Interest	<u>4,106.34</u>
Working Capital	\$212,981.06
Reserve fund (Certificate of Deposit principal)	\$800,000.00
Building fund (Balance as of August 31, 2008)	\$244,207.59

Motion by Rocco Nero, second by Keith Bell to **accept** the financial report as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

### B. Spring Sports Financial Reports

Comptroller Boehm reviewed financial reports from the 2008 OHSAA regional and state baseball and fast pitch softball tournaments along with the 2008 state boys tennis tournaments. The breakdown for the tournaments from 2008 and the previous four years is as follows:

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<u>Tournament</u>		<u>2008 Net</u>		<u>2007 Net</u>		<u>2006 Net</u>		<u>2005 Net</u>		<u>2004 Net</u>
state baseball	–	\$6,861.37	+	\$15,719.66	+	\$10,454.6	+	\$38,968.54	+	\$9,434.89
regional baseball	+	\$3,838.59	+	\$17,582.90	+	\$26,443.41	+	\$30,117.90	+	\$12,555.68
total baseball*	–	\$15,508.18	+	\$20,879.77	+	\$25,306.01	+	\$57,653.44	+	\$10,533.25
state fast pitch softball	+	\$20,800.22	+	\$9,626.80	–	\$2,430.69	+	\$2,186.14	+	\$19,671.62
regional fast pitch softball	–	\$4,923.55	–	\$309.42	–	\$15,088.36	–	\$928.61	–	\$3,281.60
total fast pitch softball*	+	\$3,378.25	–	\$3,105.41	–	\$29,111.05	–	\$10,175.47	+	\$4,910.02
state boys tennis	–	\$9,114.74	–	\$8,208.99	–	\$11,658.15	–	\$8,603.10	–	\$7,592.33

Motion by Bill Koppel, second by Teresa Alberts to **accept** the spring sports financial reports as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

### IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

#### A. Update on OHSAA Board Committees

Updates were provided to the Board on various OHSAA committees that have recently met.

1. Assistant Commissioner Snodgrass said the **Divisional Alignment Committee** held its final meeting on September 23, 2008, and recommended that, in the sport of football, Division I be divided into a two divisions, with the top four teams from each region qualifying for the OHSAA tournaments. Divisions II through VI would continue to have the same approximate number of schools assigned to each division along with eight tournament qualifiers from each region. Board President Richards said the Board of Directors plans to study the proposal further and has not set a timetable for acting on the recommendation. He said that, should the proposal be accepted or a modification of the proposal be approved, he does not anticipate implementation of a change occurring in the next few years. Mr. Richards added that included in the Board's study is to obtain input from the schools that are currently in Division I and to attempt to gauge the economic impact of the potential change.
2. Commissioner Ross said the **Finance Committee** discussed plans for the OHSAA pension, for setting aside a percentage of the OHSAA's budget for a reserve fund and for setting aside funds for technology needs within the OHSAA office.
3. Board member Koppel said the **7th-8th Grade Committee** reviewed what was discussed during the 2007-08 school year; talked about coaching education for coaches at the 7th-8th grade level; discussed a possible recommendation to increase the number of contests permitted for teams at this level; talked about recruiting issues in 7th and 8th grades, and reviewed concerns over outside groups sponsoring 7th- and 8th-grade state championships in sports such as cross country and wrestling.
4. Board member Jordan said the **Board Elections Committee** has met and is finalizing recommendations on changing the Board of Directors term rotation (five would end terms one year and four the next rather than the current format of six one year and three the next) and how to fill vacancies on District Athletic Boards. Mr. Jordan said the committee also discussed ideas on reviewing the application ballots for board elections and establishing criteria for elected board members to fulfill their terms.
5. Associate Commissioner Moore said the **Non-Interscholastic Regulations Committee** met on September 25, 2008, and has asked the OHSAA staff to prepare regulations to recommend to the Board of Directors as follows: a. Establish a two-week preseason instruction period for each sports season to be conducted in the two weeks immediately prior to the start of coaching with fall sports being held in the spring (five-hour periods per week; includes the sports of soccer, field hockey, football, volleyball, cross country, basketball, ice hockey, wrestling, baseball, softball and track & field); b. Establish a two-week "dead period" in late June and early July whereby no coaching or training could take place with school coaches, no school facilities would be available for use and no school or booster money could be provided for coaching or training purposes; and c. once practices/seasons begin, schools would be required to have their programs take one day off during a seven-week period.

#### B. Update of OHSAA Legal Issues/Infractions

The Board of Directors was provided with a list of schools that recently violated OHSAA bylaws or sports regulations. **Elmore Woodmore High School's** varsity football team used an ineligible student-athlete and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeiture, the school must forfeit the victorious contest in which the ineligible student participated. **Kettering Archbishop Alter High School's** varsity football team had a student-athlete violate Bylaw 4-4-3, Eight Semesters, and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeiture, the school must forfeit two victorious contests in which the ineligible student participated. **LaGrange Keystone Middle School's** eighth-grade football team used an ineligible student-athlete and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeiture, the school must forfeit the victorious contest in which the ineligible student participated. **Medina Highland High School's** junior varsity football team had a student-athlete violate Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship, and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeiture, the school must forfeit the victorious contest in which the ineligible student participated. **Fairfield High School's** junior varsity football team had a student-athlete violate Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship, and, in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeiture, the school must forfeit two victorious contests in which the ineligible student participated. **Shiloh Middle School's (Plymouth-Shiloh Local School District)** seventh and eighth grade cross country teams had student-athletes violate Bylaw 1-1-2 and Sports Regulation 33.4, Participation by Students Below Grade Seven, and Bylaw 4-1-2, Participating under Falsified Information, when the coach permitted sixth-grade students to participate in 7th-8th grade competitions and under assumed names. In accordance with Bylaw 11-2-5, Forfeiture, the school must forfeit the contests in which the ineligible students participated. All eligible participants were able to keep their points, records, awards and qualifying

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positions where applicable. In addition, the OHSAA acknowledged that the action taken by the school on the coach in question was appropriate.

In addition, Steve Craig, legal counsel for the OHSAA, provided an update on a court case that was recently dismissed; on a case in Trumbull County that was scheduled for the next day in which a student-athlete was seeking a preliminary injunction to participate, and an upcoming hearing with the state regarding worker's compensation for OHSAA independent contractors.

### V. OLD BUSINESS

None

### VI. NEW BUSINESS

#### A. OHSAA Contracts

Commissioner Ross informed the Board that the OHSAA staff recommended that three contracts be approved:

1. OHSAA Tournament Softball - A four-year renewal of a contract with Worth to provide the official ball for OHSAA tournaments.

Motion by Rock VanFossen, second by Teresa Alberts to **approve** the recommendation.

Motion passed 9-0.

2. OHSAA Tournament Volleyball — A five-year renewal of a contract with Molten to provide the official ball for the OHSAA tournaments.

Motion by Gene Klaus, second by Steve Stirn to **approve** the recommendation.

Motion passed 9-0.

3. OHSAA Official State Tournament Photographer — A one-year contract with an option for a second year for Impact Action Sports Photography to serve as the official state tournament photographer for the OHSAA.

Motion by Bill Koppel, second by Rocco Nero to **approve** the recommendation.

Motion passed 9-0.

### VII. ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS

#### A. 2009 State Ice Hockey Tournament Draw

Assistant Commissioner Neil and Board member Bell conducted the 2009 State Ice Hockey Tournament drawing. The tournament will be held March 14 and 15 at Nationwide Arena in Columbus. The semifinals will be held on Saturday (Brooklyn district winner vs. Kent district winner and Columbus district winner vs. Sylvania district winner), and the finals on Sunday. The starting times are to be announced.

#### B. 2009 Regional and State Girls and Boys Basketball Tournament Draw

Action on the draws was deferred until the December 4, 2008, Board of Directors Meeting.

#### C. 2009 Winter Sports Tournament Regulations

Amended winter sports tournament regulations were reviewed by OHSAA administrative staff members Snodgrass (boys and girls basketball); Price (bowling); Moore (gymnastics and swimming & diving); Neil (ice hockey), and Zaborniak (wrestling). Most changes reflected dates and times. In **bowling**, it was noted that the tournament formats for the sectional, district and the state tournaments have been modified. Both sectional and district tournaments will consist of three games of regulation 10-pin bowling and six Baker games and the state tournament's first round will consist of three games of regulation 10-pin bowling and three Baker games. In addition, the state tournament format will have the girls tournament on Friday, March 6, and the boys tournament on Saturday, March 7. In **ice hockey**, it was noted that Parma Heights Valley Forge and Lewis Center Olentangy Orange will have programs in 2008-09, while Chesterland West Geauga will not have a program. In **swimming and diving**, it was noted that the Board of Directors has approved a second division for boys beginning with the 2009 tournaments. For the state tournament, girls Division II diving will be held Wednesday, February 25, between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m., with boys Division II diving the same day between 2:00 and 5:00 p.m. Girls Division I diving will be held Thursday, February 26, between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m., with boys Division I diving the same day between 2:00 and 5:00 p.m. On Friday, February 27, Session 1 will have all girls and boys Division II preliminary events beginning at 9:00 a.m. and Session 2 will have all girls and boys Division I preliminary events beginning at 5:00 p.m. On Saturday, February 28, Session 1 will have all girls and boys Division II final events beginning at 9:00 a.m. and Session 2 will have all girls and boys Division I final events beginning at 5:00 p.m. The facility will be cleared between each session.

#### D. Future Dates for OHSAA Foundation Service Week

Commissioner Ross said that the OHSAA Foundation would like to establish dates for OHSAA Foundation Service Week in the future so schools can begin planning for the week along with the Foundation Games in the sport of basketball. The proposed dates for 2009 are Nov. 18 through Dec. 5, and the proposed dates for

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2010 are Nov. 17 through Dec. 4.

### E. WHBC-TV In Canton: Request Waiver of TV Timeouts

The Board was provided with a request from WHBC-TV in Canton that television timeouts be permitted for its live telecast of the Canton McKinley at Massillon Washington regular season football game on Saturday, October 25, 2008, as negotiated by the station and the competing schools.

### F. District Athletic Board Committee Recommendations

Board member Farbizo said there were not any recommendations from the committee, but he did provide an update. He said Northwest District Athletic Board member Bill Axe is serving as the committee chair, replacing Dave Gray. Mr. Farbizo also said the committee is working on issues pertaining to District Officials Committees and is developing evaluation forms for District Athletic Board secretaries and treasurers.

Motion by, second by to **approve** new business items VI. A., VI. B., VI. C., VI. D. and VI. E. as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

## VIII. APPEALS

### A. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Mr. Bruce J. Painter, re: His Son, Grade 10, Lima Bath High School (Northwest District)

A 10th-grade student has transferred from a non-OHSAA member private school to Lima Bath High School and has been ruled ineligible by the OHSAA for one year from the date of enrollment at Lima Bath in accordance with Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, because he does not meet any of the exceptions to the bylaw. The student's father, Bruce Painter, appealed the ineligibility so that his son can participate in interscholastic athletics at Lima Bath immediately.

Motion by Steve Stirn, second by Jay Wolfe to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 9-0.

### B. Bylaw 4-7-2, Exception 7, Transfers, Mr. Sidney Williams, re: His Daughter, Grade 10, Xenia Christian High School (Southwest District)

A 10th-grade student has transferred from Beavercreek High School to Xenia Christian High School and has been ruled ineligible by the OHSAA for one year from the date of enrollment at Xenia Christian in accordance with Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, because she does not meet any of the exceptions to the bylaw. The student's father, Sidney Williams, appealed the ineligibility so that his daughter can participate in interscholastic athletics at Xenia Christian immediately.

Motion by Rocco Nero, second by Keith Bell to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 9-0.

### C. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Mr. Jayhue Murdock Jr., re: His Son, Grade 11, Akron Archbishop Hoban High School (Northeast District)

An 11th-grade student has transferred from Massillon Jackson High School to Akron Archbishop Hoban High School and was ruled ineligible by the OHSAA for one year from the date of enrollment at Hoban in accordance with Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, because he does not meet any of the exceptions to the bylaw. The student and his parents, Jayhue and Tiwatha Murdock, appealed the ineligibility so that the student can participate in interscholastic athletics at Archbishop Hoban immediately.

Motion by Gene Klaus, second by Jay Wolfe to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 9-0.

### D. Bylaw 4-7-3, Transfers, Mr. Jeffery Ritz, Principal, re: A 12th-Grade Student, Willard High School (Northwest District)

A 12th-grade student has transferred from Carey High School to Willard High School and was ruled ineligible by the OHSAA for football this fall in accordance with Bylaw 4-7-3, Transfers, because the transfer took place during the sport season in which the student has already participated and no exceptions to the bylaw have been met. Jeffery Ritz, the school's principal, appealed the ineligibility so that the student can participate in football at Willard this fall.

Motion by Bill Koppel, second by Rocco Nero to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 9-0.

### E. Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship, Mr. Jeffrey D. Slyman, Attorney, re: A 12th Grade Student, Tipp City Tippecanoe High School (Southwest District)

A 12th-grade student at Tipp City Tippecanoe High School was ruled ineligible for the first grading period of the 2008-09 school year by the OHSAA in accordance with Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship, because he did not receive passing grades in a minimum of five one-credit courses or the equivalent which count toward graduation during the last grading period of the 2007-08 school year. Attorney Jeffrey D. Slyman originally appealed the ineligibility so that the student can participate in interscholastic athletics at Tippecanoe immediately, but the appeal was subsequently **withdrawn** prior to the Board of Directors meeting.

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### F. Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship, Mr. Dan Belferd, re: His Son, Grade 12, Massillon Perry High School (Northeast District)

A 12th-grade student at Massillon Perry High School was ruled ineligible for the first grading period of the 2008-09 school year by the OHSAA in accordance with Bylaw 4-4-1, Scholarship, because he did not receive passing grades in a minimum of five one-credit courses or the equivalent which count toward graduation during the last grading period of the 2007-08 school year. The student's father, Dan Belferd, appealed the ineligibility in writing so that his son can participate in interscholastic athletics at Massillon Perry immediately.

Motion by Jay Wolfe, second by Steve Stirn to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 9-0.

### G. Bylaw 4-3-3, Enrollment and Attendance, Ms. Christina Hart, re: A 12th-Grade Student, Kettering Archbishop Alter High School (Southwest District)

A 12th-grade student at Kettering Archbishop Alter High School has been ruled ineligible by the OHSAA in accordance with Bylaw 4-3-3, Enrollment and Attendance, because he has already completed eight semesters of eligibility for high school athletics, and the bylaw specifies that the semesters count toward the eight-semester permitted whether the student participated in athletics or not. The school's athletic administrator, Christina Hart, appealed the ineligibility in writing so that the student can participate in interscholastic athletics at Archbishop Alter and so that the two victorious football contests the school forfeited in accordance with Bylaw 11-2-1, Forfeitures (all contests in which ineligible players have participated shall be forfeited) be rescinded.

Motion by Rock VanFossen, second by Bill Koppel to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 9-0.

### H. Bylaw 4-7-6, Transfers, Ms. Julie Zolciak, re: Her Daughter, Grade 11, Sylvania Southview High School (Northwest District)

An 11th-grade student has transferred from Sylvania Northview High School to Sylvania Southview High School and has been ruled ineligible by the OHSAA for one year from the date of enrollment at Southview in accordance with Bylaw 4-7-6, Transfers, because she does not meet the standards of the bylaw. At the September 11, 2008, Board of Directors meeting, the Board voted to table the appeal so that more information can be obtained from the school district after the student's mother, Julie, appealed the ineligibility so that her daughter can participate in interscholastic athletics at Southview immediately.

Motion by Steve Stirn, second by Jay Wolfe to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 9-0.

### I. Bylaw 4-7-2, Exception 7, Transfers, Mr. Brian Sinchak, Principal, re: A 12th-Grade Student, Warren John F. Kennedy High School (Northeast District)

A 12th-grade student has transferred from a non-OHSAA member private school to Warren John F. Kennedy High School and has been ruled ineligible by the OHSAA for one year from the date of enrollment at John F. Kennedy in accordance with Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, because he does not meet Exception 7 to the bylaw. Brian Sinchak, the school's principal, appealed the ineligibility in writing so that the student can participate in interscholastic athletics at John F. Kennedy immediately.

Motion by Keith Bell, second by Gene Klaus to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 9-0.

It was noted that the Board had expected Mr. Sinchak to appeal in person, but, after waiting an hour and he still did not appear, action was taken on the written appeal.

### J. Bylaw 4-7-2, Exception 7, Transfers, Ms. Adele Iwanusa, Principal, A 10th-Grade Student, Cincinnati Ursuline Academy (Southwest District)

A 10th-grade student has transferred from Cincinnati Indian Hill High School to Cincinnati Ursuline Academy and has been ruled ineligible by the OHSAA for one year from the date of enrollment at Ursuline Academy in accordance with Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, because she does not meet any of the exceptions to the bylaw. Adele Iwanusa, the school's principal, appealed the ineligibility in writing so that the student can participate in interscholastic athletics at Ursuline Academy immediately.

Motion by Gene Klaus, second by Rock VanFossen to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 9-0.

It was noted that the Board had expected Ms. Iwanusa to appeal in person, but, after waiting an hour-and-a-half and she still did not appear, action was taken on the written appeal.

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**IX. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. None

The Board unanimously approved a motion to **adjourn** the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

Bob Goldring, recorder.

**FUTURE MEETINGS**

**(All meetings on Thursdays in the OHSAA Board Room at 9:00 a.m. unless otherwise stated.)**

**2008:** December 4, and

**2009:** January 15, February 12, April 2, May 7, June 11, August 6, September 10, October 8 and December 10.